

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10  
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AMCONSUL LYON  
AMCONSUL BORDEAUX  
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

UNCLAS MARSEILLE 0319

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT  
SUBJECT: JACQUES CHIRAC SPEAKS AT SALON-DE-PROVENCE

### SUMMARY

RPR LEADER JACQUES CHIRAC PAID A WHIRL-WIND VISIT TO THE MARSEILLE AREA ON JULY 8. HIS SCHEDULE INCLUDED CALLS ON LOCAL POLITICAL FIGURES AND A WELL-ATTENDED SPEECH IN WHICH HE DISCOURAGED COMMON MARKET ENLARGEMENT AND SPECIFICALLY THE ENTRY OF SPAIN.

1. CHIRAC ARRIVED BY AIR AT MARSEILLE ON SATURDAY MORNING, JULY 8, HE WENT DIRECTLY TO AIX-EN-PROVENCE TO CALL UPON WEWLY ELECTED MAJORITE MAYOR ALAIN JOASSAINS (CDS) AND HIS MUNICIPAL COUNCIL. A SHORT TIME LATER HE CONTINUED TO SALON WHERE HE CONFERRED IN PRIVATE WITH LOCAL RPR LEADERS. HE THEN MADE A PROTOCOL VISIT ON SENATEUR-MAIRE JEAN FRANCOU (CDR) OF SALON, FOLLOWING WHICH HE HELD A PRIVATE MEETING WITH JOSEPH COMITI, MARSEILLE S RPR DEPUTE. HE FINISHED THE  
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AFTERNOON WITH A ONE-HOUR OPEN DISCUSSION SESSION WITH A GROUP COMPRISING AREA FARMERS, SMALL BUSINESS-MEN, AND PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE.

2. AT 6:00 P.M. JACQUES CHIRAC BEGAN HIS 65 MINUTE SPEECH, WHICH WAS HELD IN A TENT ADJACENT TO A LOCAL FAIR THEN IN PROGRESS. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED ON THE DIAS BY LUC PERALDI

(RPR DELEGUE REGIONAL), BERNARD BERMOND (RPR ADJOINT AU MAIRE OF SALON) AND JEAN-PIERRE BECHIER, A NATIVE SON OF SALON WHO IS A CONFIDENT AND CLOSE SUPPORTER OF M. CHIRAC AND WON A SEAT AS RPR DEPUTE OF CORREZE IN THE LAST LEGISLATIVE ELECTION. CHIRAC WAS INTRODUCED BY M. BERMOND.

3. CHIRAC S FIRST REMARKS HIGHLIGHTED HIS SATISFACTION WITH THE LOCAL DEVOTION AND DYNAMISM OF THE RPR ORGANIZATION AND ITS EFFORTS DURING THE RECENT LEGISLATIVE ELECTION. HOWEVER, THE PARTY CANNOT REST ON ITS LAUREL BUT MUST BE EVER VIGILANT AND ACTIVE TO RETAIN AND IMPLEMENT THE IDEALS OF GENERAL DE GAULLE. THE RPR CONTINUES TO BE A FIRM MEMBER OF THE MAJORITE BUT WILL SPEAK OUT AND FIGHT FOR THE PARTY S OWN DISTINCTIVE POINT OF VIEW WHEN ITS OBJECTIVES ARE THREATENED. AMONG SUCH CONCERNS IS THE CONCEPT OF PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION IN THE PARLIAMENT WHICH WOULD PARALYZE THE GOVERNING OF FRANCE IF ADOPTED. THE PARTY IS IN FAVOR OF CONSTRUCTING A SIXTH NUCLEAR SUBMARINE AND IT STANDS BEHIND A STRONG DEFENSE POSTURE FOR FRANCE. CHIRAC CALLED FOR GREATER INTRA-MAJORITE DIALOGUE ON DOMESTIC INTERNAL ISSUES, STATING THAT HIS PARTY SUPPORTS THE OVERALL THRUST OF GOVERNMENT ECONOMIC GROWTH OBJECTIVES BUT QUESTIONS CERTAINS DETAILS OF TECHNIQUE WITH CHIRAC DID NOT SPECIFY.

MOVING TO THE TOPIC OF EUROPE, CHIRAC VIEWED EUROPEAN INTEGRATION AS THE GREAT PROJECT OF PROMISE OF THE 20TH UNCLASSIFIED

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CENTURY. HE ESPOUSED FRANCE S SUPPORT OF A STRONG UNIFIED EUROPEAN CONFEDERATION IN WHICH EACH MEMBER COUNTRY WOULD HAVE A STRONG VOICE AND CONSIDERABLE CONTROL OVER ITS INTERNAL POLICY. AGAIN, DESCRIPTIVE DETAILS OF SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT WERE LACKING. A HEALTHY, UNIFIED EUROPE IS IMPORTANT CHIRAC SAID, NOT ONLY FOR THE INTERNAL BENEFITS FOR ITS MEMBERS BUT TO COUNTER-BALANCE THE WORLD S OTHER LARGE BLOCS, NAMELY THE USA, RUSSIA, AND SOUTH AMERICA. CONFEDERATED EUROPE WILL BE ABLE TO PREVENT THE HEGEMONY OF THE SUPER-POWERS. HOWEVER, UNFORTUNATELY THE UNIFICATION OF EUROPE HAS NOT PROGRESSED AS FAR AS HAD BEEN DESIRED AND ORIGINALLY FORSEEN EXCEPT FOR THE CREATION OF THE COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY. THE AGREEMENT JUST SIGNED AT BREMEN UNFORTUNATELY DOES NOT CONSTITUTE MUCH OF AN ADVANCE. THE PLANNED ELECTION OF THE COMMON MARKET S PARLIAMENT BY UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY WILL BE A STEP FORWARD.

AS FOR ENLARGEMENT OF THE EEC, CHIRAC STRONGLY ADVISED AGAINST IT. ACCEPTANCE OF MORE NATIONS WOULD ONLY FURTHER INTERFERE WITH AND SLOW THE POLICY MAKING PROCESS AND IMPEDE ADMINISTRATION. FOR EXAMPLE, THIS ALREADY HAD HAPPENED MERELY

BY EXPANDING THE COMMUNITY FROM SIX TO NINE MEMBERS. AND, JUST AS IMPORTANT, EXPANSION WOULD JEOPARDIZE THE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF THE COMMUNITY S CITIZENS. THUS, BY BRINGING IN SPAIN, LARGE NUMBERS OF FRENCH FARMERS AND OTHER EEC AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS WOULD BE HARMED BY THE INFLUX AND COMPETITIVE INFLUENCE OF SPANISH PRODUCTS (RED WINE, FRUITS, AND VEGETABLES). THE POLICY OF RESTRUCTURING FRENCH FARMERS ECONOMIC BASE IS FALSE, CHIRAC CLAIMED, SINCE IT IS NOT FAIR TO THEM AND NOT REALLY WORKABLE. THUS, IT IS NOT NOW POSSIBLE TO CONSIDER SPAIN AS A PROSPECTIVE COMMON MARKET PARTNER, ON WHICH NOTE CHIRAC CONLUDED HIS REMARKS.

4. JACQUES CHIRAC S SPEECH WAS WELL ATTENDED. THE CONSTANT MILLING OF THOSE WITHIN THE TENT AND MUCH COMING AND GOING  
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MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE CONSULATE GENERAL S OBSERVER TO MAKE A RELIABLE ESTIMATE OF THE AUDIENCE, THOUGH IT IS BELIEVED THERE WERE AT LEAST 3000-4000 ON HAND. THE AUDIENCE, MOSTLY PARTY LEADERS AND FAITHFUL, WERE VERY VERBAL IN SUPPORTING THEIR LEADER S REMARKS AND APPLAUSE WAS FREQUENT AND NOISY. THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE OF COUNTER-DEMONSTRATORS OR HECKLERS.

PRIME MINISTER BARRE HAD PROCEEDED CHIRAC TO SALON BY ONE DAY, ARRIVING FRIDAY AFTERNOON AT THE ECOLE DE L AIR, SALON, TO PARTICIPATE IN THE AIR ACADEMY S GRADUATION CEREMONIES. BARRE MADE NO PUBLIC COMMENTS DURING HIS STAY THOUGH HE HELD A BRIEF SESSION WITH NEWSMAN FUPON HIS ARRIVAL. MEIMA

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